

**COLLECTS FROM THE LITURGY
OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
FOR THE LEADING SUNDAYS
AND OTHER FEASTS AND FAST
THROUGHOUT THE YEAR**

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Collects from the liturgy of the Church of England for the leading Sundays and other feasts and fast throughout the year by A. Churchman

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A. CHURCHMAN

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Sir Harry Verney
with W. Hart David's
kind regards
The Hill - Oct. 1857.

COLLECTS

FROM

THE LITURGY,

PARAPHRASED.

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COLLECTS

FROM

THE LITURGY OF THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

FOR

THE LEADING SUNDAYS

AND

OTHER FEASTS AND FASTS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

Paraphrased

BY

A CHURCHMAN.

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PREFACE.

THE following Paraphrases of a portion of the Collects contained in the Liturgy of the Church of England were considered by the writer as quite unfinished. But, as a memento of one justly dear to his family and to many deeply attached friends, it has been felt that this little Volume would be valued by them, and that they would regard it, not with the eyes of critics, but with the feeling of friends, who will delight to trace in its pages the writer's love for the truths of God's Word set forth in these portions of our admirable Liturgy. In this belief a few copies have been printed for private circulation.

Of the difficulties inseparable from the attempt to paraphrase, satisfactorily, compositions in themselves so beautiful and so endeared by our highest associations, he was fully sensible, as the following remarks from his own pen prove:—

“The beautiful Collects of our Liturgy may be regarded as interesting subjects for paraphrase; the difficulty of composing suitable paraphrases to such compositions is however obvious.

“Every one feels that the wording of the authorized version of the Holy Scriptures has so woven itself into the minds and memories of the readers of the Bible, that any new translation, though it should not less correctly give the sense of the original, would, from being conveyed in different forms of expression, appear almost like a departure from the sacred text itself. And so, in like manner, the ear has so accustomed itself to the cadences of the Collects, that any other form of words, even when suitably expressed in a not displeasing metre, will probably be felt at first to be unsatisfactory.

“As however pleasing paraphrases of some of the Psalms have been produced, a similar attempt as respects the Collects, though difficult, need not be regarded as hopeless.”

He had himself set apart the Collects for the leading Sundays and principal Feasts and Fasts, as bringing out in prominent relief all the great doctrines of our Church successively, in connection with the acts and offices of *the Saviour*, together with a few additional Collects, containing petitions either closely connected with the foregoing commemorative Holydays, or commending the support and direction of the Church to God's perpetual mercy.

To the above he added the Collects set apart for commemorating those Saints, whose characters and conduct have been selected by our Church as examples of edifying faith and holy practice, which latter he viewed as displaying the Christian doctrines, in connection with the Christian character of *the Saints*; while in each case

we find the Collect closed with a petition that we may be enabled to profit by the doctrine and the example thus set forth, through the grace of the Saviour.

To this selection, made on these grounds by himself, are now added a few additional paraphrases of the remaining Sunday Collects, chosen from those which were left by him in the least unfinished state, together with paraphrases of the Collect and Canticle for the Holy Communion, and a Hymn formed upon the opening sentences of the Morning and Evening Services of our Liturgy, also from his pen.

The truths which he thus loved to dwell upon in life and health proved his unfailing stay in the season of illness and death; and those whose privilege it was to minister in that sick chamber saw there manifested from day to day those fruits of the Spirit, which are by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God,—faith unshaken, meekness unruffled, love overflowing to God and man.

Patience had there her perfect work, and God was glorified in His servant by his deep humility and his rejoicing trust in his Saviour through many trying weeks, till at length he calmly fell asleep in Jesus, bequeathing to all who watched beside him a blessed testimony to the all-sufficiency of God for His servants' utmost need in every hour of trial.

Whitchurch, Hants, 1855.